



KENTUCKY

# Employee Connection

News for the state government workforce

April 2014

## State Employees Save More Than \$335,000 Through Employee Suggestion System



The 2014 KESS award recipients were recognized March 11 at the Governor's Mansion. Fifty-one employees' ideas were approved for implementation, and combined, are expected to save the Commonwealth more than \$335,000 in the first year alone. [Read more.](#) [Submit your suggestion](#) through KHRIS ESS.

## Personnel Board Election to Be Held; Seeking Two Merit Employee Members



An election will be held on June 13, 2014, for the purpose of electing two (2) classified (merit) employee members to the [Kentucky Personnel Board](#). The current employee members' terms will expire on July 1, 2014. [Read more.](#)

## Upcoming Payroll Deferral Reminder



The 2012-2014 Budget Bill mandates that the regular payroll of June 30, 2014, cannot be issued prior to July 1, 2014. Therefore, please be advised that the pay you would have received on Monday, June 30, 2014, will be received on Tuesday, July 1, 2014.

Additional reminders as well as answers to frequently asked questions will be shared closer to that date.

## Time Is Running Out: Take Your HA



If you chose a LivingWell CDHP or PPO health plan for 2014, but have not yet completed your LivingWell Promise, you must complete it by May 1, 2014. [Learn more.](#)

## More Headlines

### Spring Into Savings with Compass

Watch your wallet grow when you use Compass to find cost-effective locations for the health care services you need! Compass brings health care transparency to your fingertips and rewards you with cash incentives. Call 855-869-2133 or visit [Compass online](#).

### Are You Saving Enough for Retirement?

How much is enough depends on your financial needs.

Ask yourself:

1. Where am I now with my retirement savings?
2. Where do I need to be?
3. How do I get there? [Read more.](#)

## Upcoming Events

### Unbridled Spring

The Unbridled Spring program held in conjunction with the Kentucky Department of Travel and Tourism and the Kentucky State Parks is in full swing giving travelers locations of the best spring foliage and weekly events. The Department of Travel and Tourism wants to remind all state employees to check the website at [www.kentuckytourism.com](http://www.kentuckytourism.com) for a complete list of festivals and events across the Commonwealth. There are plenty of memories to be made close to home.

### Celebrate Earth Day

The **Kentucky Artisan Center** presents the exhibit, "Repurposed & Recycled: Works by Kentucky Artisans," now through Sept. 6. [Read more.](#)

Natural Environment Day, a tree-planting event at **Wickliffe Mounds State Historic Site** on April 26 [Read more.](#)

### 78th Annual Governor's Derby Celebration

The 78th annual Governor's Derby Celebration will be held in historic downtown Frankfort for the fourth year in a row. The celebration will be held on Kentucky Derby Day, Saturday, May 3, from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. Eastern time and is **free and open to the public.**

View information on the Governor's Derby Celebration, including [an electronic invitation, a downloadable version of the Governor's Derby poster and more.](#)

### Free, Online Training through the State Library

Live, online sessions for April through June are now posted on the state library's [training events calendar](#). Remember, class sizes are limited so sign up today if you are interested. If you need assistance with your library account number or have a question, contact the reference desk at 502-564-8300, ext.342 or 800-

## Adverse Weather Leave Make-up

While state offices remain open despite inclement weather, conditions sometimes prevent employees from reporting to work according to their schedule. The use of adverse weather leave is a benefit to state employees, allowing them to avoid using their own leave in the event of such weather, until such time that the borrowed leave can be made up. Remember, when using adverse weather leave, it must be made up within 123 days from the date it was used. [Read more.](#)

## Treasurer Hollenbach Surpasses \$100 Million Goal

Since first taking office in 2008, Kentucky Treasurer Todd Hollenbach, along with his proactive volunteer-based Treasure Finders Program, has returned a record of more than \$100 million of unclaimed property to the rightful owners. [Read more.](#)

## KHRIS Employee Self-Service Not Available June 6 - June 10

Beginning at noon on June 6, KHRIS Employee Self-Service will not be accessible due to an extended outage. This is an annual outage that allows for required upgrades to the system.

Access will return the morning of June 11, in time for accessing salary statements for the June 15 pay date.

## Employee Recognition

Find out about Miria Thomas, Kerri Richardson, KESS Recipients and Kentucky State Parks. [Read more.](#)

## Employee Discounts

Kentucky State Parks special deals on lodge rooms and camping. For more information, click [here](#).

[View more discounts.](#)

928-7000, ext. 342. You can also use the [Ask a Librarian](#) service.

## Around the Commonwealth

Find fun things to do. [Read more.](#)

## Planning Your Trip

### 2014 Kentucky Official Highway Map Now Available

Plan your trip and find Kentucky's hidden treasures. View or download an [electronic version of the Official State Highway Map, county maps or city maps.](#)

## Pets at Kentucky State Parks

Want to bring your four-legged family member with you when you visit your favorite Kentucky State Park?

The Kentucky State Parks welcome pets at its 17 state resort parks. [Read more.](#)

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